97-84078-7

Croll, Walther

Stones that speak

Zürich

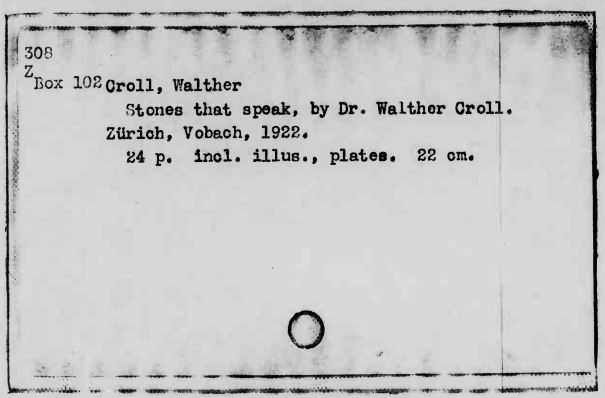
1922

97-84078-7
MASTER NEGATIVE #

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
PRESERVATION DIVISION

BIBLIOGRAPHIC MICROFORM TARGET

ORIGINAL MATERIAL AS FILMED - EXISTING BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD



RESTRICTIONS ON USE: Reproductions may not be made without permission from Columbia University Libraries

TECHNICAL MICROFORM DATA

FILM SIZE: 35mm REDUCTION RATIO: 11:1 IMAGE PLACEMENT: IA (IIA) IB IIB

DATE FILMED: 5-8-97 INITIALS: CLB

TRACKING # : 23674

FILMED BY PRESERVATION RESOURCES, BETHLEHEM, PA.

Through the President's Office

STONES THAT SPEAK.

Box

308
Z
Box 102

1922

STONES THAT SPEAK!

by

Dr. WALTHER CROLL

Publishers:
W. Vobach & Cie.
Zürich, Limmatquai 34.

1922

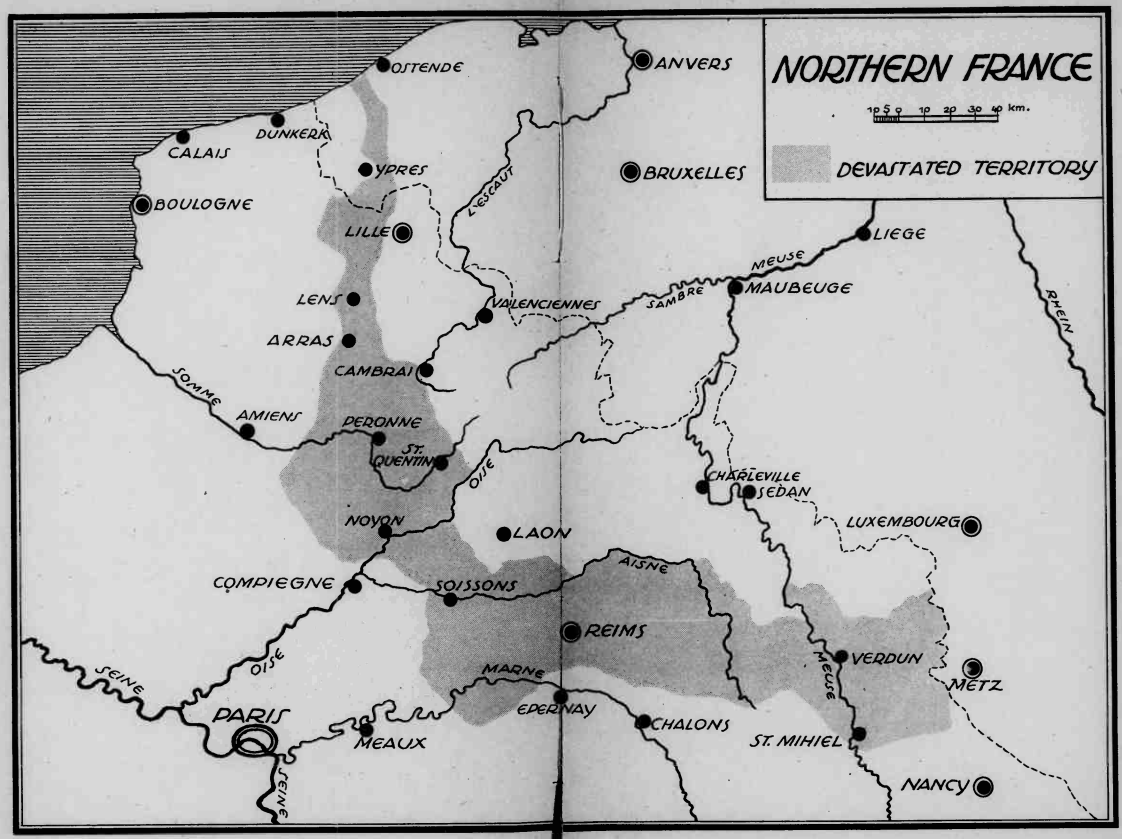
Clip Mem. 23. 1927
Rec'd

. . . . VIII. All French territory should be freed and the invaded portions restored . . . .
Woodrow Wilson before Congress on January 8th, 1918.

It is difficult for one who has not seen them to realize just how the devastated battlefields of the World War really look. Still more difficult is it when one lives in another continent. However, we have been helped by reports and pictures during and since the war to form an idea. We see in imagination the fields pitted with shellholes full of water, the meadows disfigured by trenches and barbed-wire barricades, the remnants of homes, scattered fragments of church or cemetery walls. In imagination we see also the courageous pioneer of reconstruction, as he turns with the peaceful steel of his ploughshare the earth which the death-bringing steel of shells and mines through long years ploughed to its very depths. We shudder with him when a half-buried skeleton stops his ploughshare and checks the course of his peaceful work.

WHERE ARE THE RUINS OF THE WORLD WAR SITUATED?

The territory that suffered more than man, even with the aid of old annals and histories, is capable of imagining, is that front in Middle Europe where for four long years the strongest armies of the world opposed each other — the armies of the Allies: France, Belgium, England and America, aligned against the flower of the


NORTHERN FRANCE
10 5 0 10 20 30 40 km.
DEVASTATED TERRITORY
OSTENDE
ANVERS
DUNKERK
CALAIS
YPRES
BRUXELLES
BOULOGNE
LILLE
L'ESCAUT
LIEGE
MEUSE
LENS
VALENCIENNES
SAMBRE
MAUBEUGE
RHEIN
ARRAS
CAMBRAI
SOMME
AMIENS
PERONNE
ST. QUENTIN
OISE
CHARLEVILLE
SEDAN
LUXEMBOURG
NOYON
LAON
AISNE
COMPIEGNE
SOISSONS
REIMS
SEINE
OISE
MARNE
VERDUN
MEUSE
METZ
PARIS
EPERNAY
CHALONS
ST. MIHIEL
MEAUX
SEINE
NANCY

German forces, both sides equipped with every weapon and instrument of war which the period before the war and the war-years themselves had brought into existence. This territory comprises for the most part the ten northeastern departments (provinces) of France, from the junction of the borders of Germany, Switzerland and France to the Straits of Calais, a district rich in agricultural products, natural resources and factories, one of the richest districts of all Europe. The map on pages 4 and 5 shows the extent of the French war-ruins, which now, after the great symphony of death has come to an end, are attracting great numbers of visitors from all countries, both from formerly belligerent and neutral lands. He who wanders through such a devastated section — and there is no lack of these — asks himself:

HOW WERE THESE RUINS CAUSED?

Even a good walker, viewing the place where a heavy shell has exploded, must walk an hour or even two hours to reach the place whence the shell came, five, ten or even more miles away. The great guns that ploughed up the earth and destroyed the dwellings stood on both sides of the battle zone. Since the Allies were incomparably better equipped with artillery and other implements of war than their opponents, the zone that lay under the fire of the Allied armies exhibits a far greater degree of destruction than the zone reached by the German guns. It is no longer possible to tell, by studying the ploughed up fields and the heaps of ruins, from which side the shells came that did the damage. A part of the destruction, however, was the systematic work of the retreating armies, which, in accordance with the usages of war, could not leave the enemy any cover of any kind, anything that could aid him in carrying out his advance, or even any prominent feature on the landscape which might serve as a mark for enemy guns. Thus the rows of trees along the roads were cut down, and even cellars, mine shafts and wells were destroyed. There were and still are districts which are so thoroughly devastated that the observer finds himself wondering doubtfully:

BUT WILL IT EVER BE POSSIBLE TO REBUILD THESE RUINS?

The same doubt — is it possible, or even worth while, to rebuild this heap of ruins? — assails one who visits the scene of a conflagration. In a few weeks, however, he convinces himself by observation that all hindrances succumb before courageous work,

Photograph of wooden house in Ressons sur Matz (in the devastated district of Northern France), built by Christoph & Unmack Company, the oldest, largest and most up-to-date manufactory for wooden houses and portable buildings, in Niesky, Oberlausitz, Germany.

▽

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

German forces, both sides equipped with every weapon and instrument of war which the period before the war and the war-years themselves had brought into existence. This territory comprises for the most part the ten northeastern departments (provinces) of France, from the junction of the borders of Germany, Switzerland and France to the Straits of Calais, a district rich in agricultural products, natural resources and factories, one of the richest districts of all Europe. The map on pages 4 and 5 shows the extent of the French war-ruins, which now, after the great symphony of death has come to an end, are attracting great numbers of visitors from all countries, both from formerly belligerent and neutral lands. He who wanders through such a devastated section — and there is no lack of these — asks himself:

HOW WERE THESE RUINS CAUSED?

Even a good walker, viewing the place where a heavy shell has exploded, must walk an hour or even two hours to reach the place whence the shell came, five, ten or even more miles away. The great guns that ploughed up the earth and destroyed the dwellings stood on both sides of the battle zone. Since the Allies were incomparably better equipped with artillery and other implements of war than their opponents, the zone that lay under the fire of the Allied armies exhibits a far greater degree of destruction than the zone reached by the German guns. It is no longer possible to tell, by studying the ploughed up fields and the heaps of ruins, from which side the shells came that did the damage. A part of the destruction, however, was the systematic work of the retreating armies, which, in accordance with the usages of war, could not leave the enemy any cover of any kind, anything that could aid him in carrying out his advance, or even any prominent feature on the landscape which might serve as a mark for enemy guns. Thus the rows of trees along the roads were cut down, and even cellars, mine shafts and wells were destroyed. There were and still are districts which are so thoroughly devastated that the observer finds himself wondering doubtfully:

BUT WILL IT EVER BE POSSIBLE TO REBUILD THESE RUINS?

The same doubt — is it possible, or even worth while, to rebuild this heap of ruins? — assails one who visits the scene of a conflagration. In a few weeks, however, he convinces himself by observation that all hindrances succumb before courageous work,

Photograph of wooden house in Ressons sur Matz (in the devastated district of Northern France), built by Christoph & Unmack Company, the oldest, largest and most up-to-date manufactory for wooden houses and portable buildings, in Niesky, Oberlausitz, Germany.

▽

and even that the new is very often the better. The fruitfulness of the soil is still there, no matter how many tons of iron are lying in the earth. If the heaped up earth around the shellholes be leveled, the holes filled, the fields ploughed and sowed, the harvest will come. New trees will grow and new forests will spring up. New settlements will come into being on the sides of the old ones, or on more favourable locations, and give shelter to peaceful people. Where treasures are contained in the depths of the earth, powder and iron could destroy only the appliances needed for securing these treasures, but not the treasures themselves. The ruins *can* disappear and make place for the foundations of new buildings. They *must* disappear, also, not merely because the devastated district was and still is the home of millions of men and women who love their land, but also because the reconstruction of the destroyed territory must be a symbol that a world catastrophe like that of 1914-18 must never again come upon the world in any circumstances. Peace would be misnamed if it were not able to do away with the traces of war and to dry up the springs of hatred that flow continuously from the ruins. The doing away with the ruins of the war is the most important task toward the reconciliation of the peoples, more important than treaties and conferences, more important, too, than any labour of colonization and civilization in still unsettled lands.

UPON WHOM, THEN, RESTS THE TASK OF REBUILDING THESE RUINS?

The duty of rebuilding the devastated districts of Northern France and Belgium has been assumed by the vanquished in the war, the German people. In the negotiations carried on in the fall of 1918 between the American Secretary of State, Robert Lansing, and the German government, the German people solemnly promised to employ all its powers to do away with every trace of war on the chief battle front. All the German cabinets since then have regarded this promise as irrevocably binding. Nevertheless, the task is too great for a single people. It can be carried out only if all peace-loving peoples of the world, all who desire a reconciliation of the former antagonists, shall come to an agreement that only the removal of the war's consequences can soothe the passions which the war unchained. But though the guns have been silent nearly four years, Germany has not yet been able to do any effective work toward the practical reconstruction of Northern France. The

The City of Soldau

After its Devastation in 1914 by the Russians

peace, which was to bring healing for all wounds, has instead caused Germany's industry to sicken. The value of the German paper currency is steadily going down, and there is grave doubt as to whether Germany, in addition to the heavy burdens of the peace treaty, can possibly fulfil its duty of reconstruction. Ever more acute becomes the question:

IS IT POSSIBLE FOR GERMANY TO CARRY OUT THIS WORK?

Whoever visits the German industrial districts and inspects German workshops and storage houses finds that German productivity has survived the war and the overthrow following it, and that strikingly good work is still being done in the hardest working industrial land of the European continent. German industry has also exhibited understanding and adaptability for the special problems of the work of reconstruction. He who visits to-day the former ruined districts of East Prussia, devastated by the Russian invasions of 1914-15, finds that not only good work has been done, but also fast work. The two pictures on pages 10 and 11 show a ruined East Prussian city before and after the reconstruction with German material and by German labour. But the neat wooden houses

in East Prussia

After it had been rebuilt by the Germans

furnished by German firms accord well with the French landscape as well, as is shown by the pictures on pages 1, 7 and 13. Germany's technical ability to reconstruct the ruins of Northern France is not doubted by anybody who has seen the great fairs (Messen) at Leipzig and Frankfort, and the army of foreign buyers who conducted a peaceful invasion in order to secure the products of German industry.

WHAT HAS GERMANY THUS FAR DONE TOWARD THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE RUINS IN FRANCE?

Those who have not yet been able to root out from their hearts the hatreds of the war-years have attempted to make people believe that Germany has taken no practical steps toward fulfilling its reconstruction duties. They point to the fact that as yet so little German material has reached France, and that German labour has participated only to an utterly negligible extent in the work of practical reconstruction. But this is not enough to show a culpable neglect on Germany's part. It must also be proved that the government and the people of Germany have not devoted their best efforts to the work of building up.

Germany's efforts to participate in the labor of reconstruction

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

The City of Soldau

After its Devastation in 1914 by the Russians

peace, which was to bring healing for all wounds, has instead caused Germany's industry to sicken. The value of the German paper currency is steadily going down, and there is grave doubt as to whether Germany, in addition to the heavy burdens of the peace treaty, can possibly fulfil its duty of reconstruction. Ever more acute becomes the question:

IS IT POSSIBLE FOR GERMANY TO CARRY OUT THIS WORK?

Whoever visits the German industrial districts and inspects German workshops and storage houses finds that German productivity has survived the war and the overthrow following it, and that strikingly good work is still being done in the hardest working industrial land of the European continent. German industry has also exhibited understanding and adaptability for the special problems of the work of reconstruction. He who visits to-day the former ruined districts of East Prussia, devastated by the Russian invasions of 1914-15, finds that not only good work has been done, but also fast work. The two pictures on pages 10 and 11 show a ruined East Prussian city before and after the reconstruction with German material and by German labour. But the neat wooden houses

in East Prussia

After it had been rebuilt by the Germans

furnished by German firms accord well with the French landscape as well, as is shown by the pictures on pages 1, 7 and 13. Germany's technical ability to reconstruct the ruins of Northern France is not doubted by anybody who has seen the great fairs (Messen) at Leipzig and Frankfort, and the army of foreign buyers who conducted a peaceful invasion in order to secure the products of German industry.

WHAT HAS GERMANY THUS FAR DONE TOWARD THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE RUINS IN FRANCE?

Those who have not yet been able to root out from their hearts the hatreds of the war-years have attempted to make people believe that Germany has taken no practical steps toward fulfilling its reconstruction duties. They point to the fact that as yet so little German material has reached France, and that German labour has participated only to an utterly negligible extent in the work of practical reconstruction. But this is not enough to show a culpable neglect on Germany's part. It must also be proved that the government and the people of Germany have not devoted their best efforts to the work of building up.

Germany's efforts to participate in the labor of reconstruction

go back to the year 1919, to a period, indeed, when the peace treaty had not even been signed. In July, 1919, immediately after the German delegates had signed the Treaty of Versailles, the German government declared itself ready to take part in the reconstruction work to the greatest extent possible. Germany proposed that the Allies permit it to take over the whole work of rebuilding and to have this work done by German labour. In connection with this proposal, a request was made that German representatives be permitted to study conditions in the devastated districts. **This request was refused.** Negotiations, held between Germany and French delegates in this matter, led, indeed, to an agreement, but these negotiations were later disapproved by the over-suspicious French government. Not until September, 1919, were Germany's representatives permitted to make a flying visit to the devastated territories. A whole year passed (until October, 1920) before any further negotiations were held as a result of this trip. The French government promised to propose territories in which the work of reconstruction should be undertaken with German material and by German labour. **The promised proposals have never been made. German cooperation in the reconstruction of the French mines never came about for the reason that the German mining experts who were sent to the city of Douai with the permission of the French government to inaugurate the work were refused permission to remain.**

IN THE FALL OF 1919 GERMANY ESTABLISHED A SPECIAL MINISTRY FOR RECONSTRUCTION,

in order that it might be able to fulfil its duties more effectually. At the conference in Spa, from June 5th to 16th, 1920, the then German Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Simons, presented new proposals in the name of the government. These provided that a building syndicate should engage labourers from Allied and neutral lands, and also from Germany, in order to rebuild the devastated districts. The proposals were not accepted. At the conference of experts at Brussels in the fall of 1920 the French delegate Seydoux proposed that German workmen be employed in the reconstruction territory, under the oversight of French concerns. This proposal as well found no favour on the French side. On April 22nd, 1921, the German government sent a detailed communication to the Reparations Commission, wherein it proposed three different methods of

Houses planned for the devastated districts.
(see also the picture on the title page.)

reconstruction. These were: (a) the rebuilding of adjoining territories under German direction; or (b) the furnishing of materials and workmen for French concerns, or (c) the furnishing of a list of reponsible German firms capable of delivering material for rebuilding. In particular, 25,000 wooden houses were offered in order to furnish shelter for the homeless inhabitants of the devastated districts. **No detailed answer to the German proposals has ever been received form the French government.**

OF THE 25,000 HOUSES OFFERED, ONLY 93 HAD BEEN DEMANDED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT UP TO APRIL, 1922.

In French building contractors' circles much is expected from the cooperation of German building technic and organization. Despite this, as a result of political and economic doubts expressed in certain French quarters, all efforts of both French and German concerns to carry out cooperative reconstruction work have up to this time come to naught.

In the summer of 1921 German and French labor unions made plans to have eleven completely destroyed municipalities in the district of Péronnes-Chaulnes rebuilt by German workmen. The French government set up as a condition precedent for its approval of these plans that at least 80 % of the French inhabitants of the places in question must declare their desire to have the rebuilding done by German workmen. The voting, which was conducted by the labour unions with the cooperation of the government, disclosed that

84 % OF THE INHABITANTS FAVORED GERMAN COOPERATION.

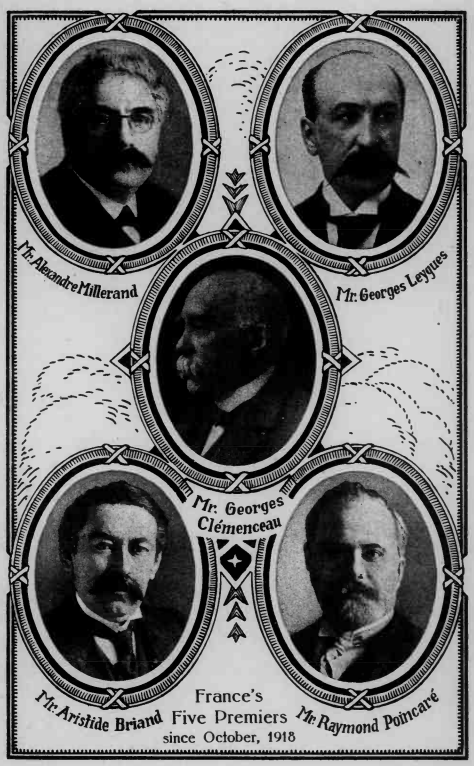
Alleging that the voting had not been officially done, the French government had another plebiscite held. This second poll, in which fewer inhabitants cast their votes, showed only 49 % in favour of reconstruction by Germans. Thereupon the plan was abandoned. Hence the year 1922 is also passing without Germany being permitted to put into practical effect its readiness to start the work of rebuilding.

The German government did not allow itself to become discouraged by its experiences, and repeatedly endeavoured to facilitate for the French the deliveries of German building materials for the reconstruction of the devastated territory. After lengthy negotiations there was brought about the Wiesbaden agreement of

October 6th, 1921, by which Germany declared its readiness to deliver to France materials to an amount which many well informed Germans regard as impossible of fulfilment. This agreement provides for the supplying of building materials, furnishings and equipments which are to be used expressly for the rebuilding of the destroyed districts. The German government lets pass no opportunity of reiterating its readiness to cooperate in the reconstruction of the French war-ruins. This was done, for instance, in the speech of the German government's representative, Dr. Walther Rathenau, at the conference of the Supreme Council at Cannes on January 12th, 1922, in the German reparations note of January 28th, 1922, and in the speech in the Reichstag on March 29th, 1922, by Dr. Rathenau, who had in the meantime been named Minister of Foreign Affairs. Complaints are openly voiced in France over the fact that a part of the inhabitants of the devastated districts are compelled to live in wretched dugouts and ruins, although, by accepting the German building proposals, these people could have a neat home within a short time. The Paris newspaper "Le Peuple", in its issue No. 461 of April 10th, 1922, published the two pictures (see last page), which prove that German building materials and German labour, instead of being used for the relief of the sufferers' needs, have been used for expensive military buildings. Other Allied lands, which under the Treaty of Versailles also have asserted the right to receive German building materials — such as Italy, Belgium and Serbia — have ordered large quantities of such materials. Thus Serbia alone has received many times as much as France has ordered, and is still demanding further deliveries of German goods. Whoever has watched the fruitless efforts of Germany to fulfil its rebuilding promises could very well reproach the French with not having done all possible to do away with the war's ruins. The question arises:

HAS ANYTHING AT ALL BEEN DONE TOWARD THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE DESTROYED DISTRICTS?

It would be doing an injustice to the industrious French people and to the goodwill of their officials to deny that very much rebuilding has already been done. As to this there are available from French sources some statistics which without doubt come from official bodies and therefore deserve credence. The French newspaper "Politique Etrangère" of March 16th, 1922, published the following figures, giving the situation on January 1st, 1922:



INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

October 6th, 1921, by which Germany declared its readiness to deliver to France materials to an amount which many well informed Germans regard as impossible of fulfilment. This agreement provides for the supplying of building materials, furnishings and equipments which are to be used expressly for the rebuilding of the destroyed districts. The German government lets pass no opportunity of reiterating its readiness to cooperate in the reconstruction of the French war-ruins. This was done, for instance, in the speech of the German government's representative, Dr. Walther Rathenau, at the conference of the Supreme Council at Cannes on January 12th, 1922, in the German reparations note of January 28th, 1922, and in the speech in the Reichstag on March 29th, 1922, by Dr. Rathenau, who had in the meantime been named Minister of Foreign Affairs. Complaints are openly voiced in France over the fact that a part of the inhabitants of the devastated districts are compelled to live in wretched dugouts and ruins, although, by accepting the German building proposals, these people could have a neat home within a short time. The Paris newspaper "Le Peuple", in its issue No. 461 of April 10th, 1922, published the two pictures (see last page), which prove that German building materials and German labour, instead of being used for the relief of the sufferers' needs, have been used for expensive military buildings. Other Allied lands, which under the Treaty of Versailles also have asserted the right to receive German building materials — such as Italy, Belgium and Serbia — have ordered large quantities of such materials. Thus Serbia alone has received many times as much as France has ordered, and is still demanding further deliveries of German goods. Whoever has watched the fruitless efforts of Germany to fulfil its rebuilding promises could very well reproach the French with not having done all possible to do away with the war's ruins. The question arises:

HAS ANYTHING AT ALL BEEN DONE TOWARD THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE DESTROYED DISTRICTS?

It would be doing an injustice to the industrious French people and to the goodwill of their officials to deny that very much rebuilding has already been done. As to this there are available from French sources some statistics which without doubt come from official bodies and therefore deserve credence. The French newspaper "Politique Etrangère" of March 16th, 1922, published the following figures, giving the situation on January 1st, 1922:

France's Five Premiers since October, 1918

Of about 703 000 destroyed or damaged houses	about 335 000 had been rebuilt.
Of about 35 420 miles of destroyed roads	about 20 970 miles had been reconstructed.
Of about 9 179 500 acres of shell-torn land	about 7 975 000 acres were again under cultivation.
Of about 4 084 industrial plants	about 3 986 were again in operation.

It is a fact that France's financial situation is unfavourable. Despite this, large amounts have just recently been appropriated for reconstruction. Nevertheless there are continual complaints among the French people that the results attained are out of all proportion to the money expended. There has also been a sharp discussion among the French public as to whether official circles have done all that they could have done to help the sufferers find shelter and occupation as rapidly as possible. During the discussion of a rental measure in the French Chamber of Deputies on December 22nd, 1921, complaints were made that in numerous cities and localities in the devastated territory the wishes of the homeless inhabitants regarding the erection of houses or barracks had not been met. The fact that so much wretchedness exists in the ruined districts, that whole families, women, children and old people, live in a single room, that miserable piles of ruins serve as shelter, and that so many unfortunate inhabitants of the war-zone have even yet received no assistance, although more than three and a half years have passed since the war ended, gives rise to the question:

WHY HAS FRANCE REFUSED THE PROFFERED GERMAN HELP IN REBUILDING?

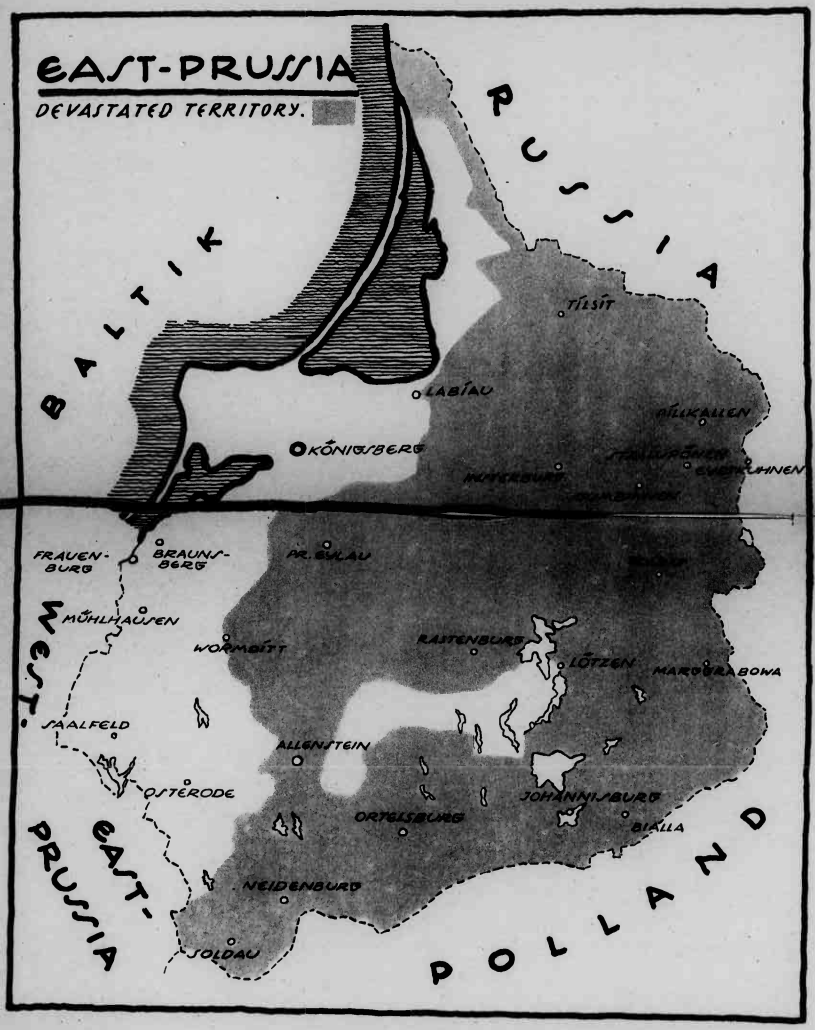
It must be specially emphasized that the great majority of the sufferers in the devastated districts are prepared to permit their former German opponents to cooperate in the rebuilding of the war-ruins, and thus to do away with one of the most dangerous sources of hatred between peoples. The reasons why German labour and building materials have thus far been almost entirely rejected are to be sought in two different fields — that of administration and that of economic interests. The French administrative apparatus is especially complicated and functions slowly. The sufferers in the devastated districts complain continuously that their applications lie for months without being acted on, and that the things asked for are frequently not sent promptly even when the material is on hand.

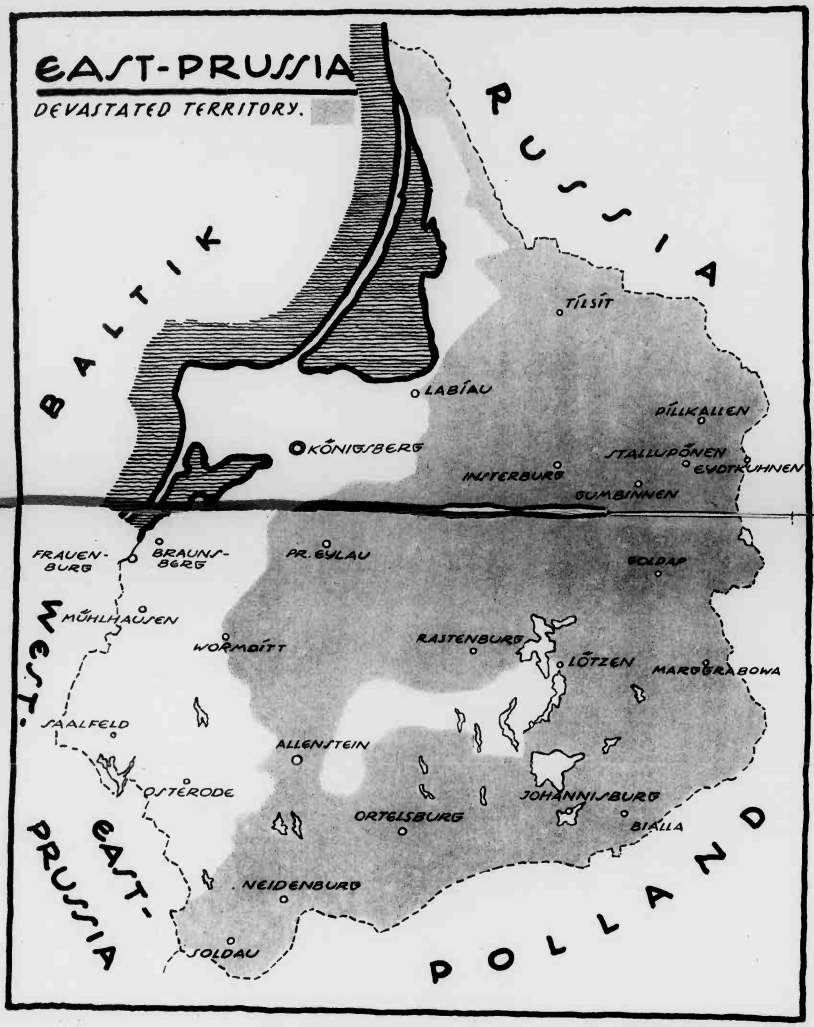
Further delays are occasioned by the frequent changes of the cabinet. Since the war Clemenceau, Millerand, Leygues, Briand and Poincaré (see pictures on page 17) have successively been chiefs of cabinet, and in some of the other ministries the changes have been even more frequent than in the post of prime minister. French public opinion is also easily influenced by prejudices, rumours and false reports. These things are reponsible for the fact that the repeated negotiations regarding cooperation of German contractors, technicians and workmen in the reconstruction of the destroyed districts have thus far come to naught. The greatest influence, however, has been wielded by French building interests — building contractors and dealers in building materials and furnishings. The general stagnation of production and sales in the lands of the victorious powers and of the neutrals awakened in the French industry the desire to retain the destroyed districts as an assured market, and to prevent, as far as possible, any competition from other countries. The French ministers charged with the care of the destroyed districts did not possess the necessary experience and authority to carry out their plans against the organized campaign of the contractors in question. In addition to this, it was the endeavour of the French dealers in building materials to deliver everything themselves and to have these deliveries paid for by Germany.

The question:

SHALL GERMANY DELIVER OR PAY?

requires a closer investigation into Germany's situation. All calculations as to what Germany can accomplish are based on facts and figures from the period before the war. To-day, however, the German one and two-mark bills are hardly worth the paper they are printed on. The peoples of Western Europe and America possess more German paper money than they could wish, and more than they can realize on. Payment in German paper money for the work of reconstruction is, therefore, not to be considered. Germany is compelled to secure foreign currency in order to pay. But in the long run, a people deeply in debt can secure more valuable foreign money only by selling its wares or sacrificing its property. Since Germany has needed much money and will need still more in order to meet its obligations, it is compelled to buy ever more, in other words, to flood the world-market with its products. This compulsion is the chief reason why two million workmen in Eng-


EAST-PRUSSIA
DEVASTATED TERRITORY.
BALTIK
RUSSIA
TILSIT
LABIAU
PILLKALLEN
KÖNIGSBERG
INSTERBURG
GUMBINNEN
EYDTKUHNEN
FRAUEN-BURG
BRAUNS-BERG
PR. EILAU
MÜHLHAUSEN
WORMDITT
RASTENBURG
LÖTZEN
MARGRABOWA
SAALFELD
ALLENSTEIN
OSTERODE
JOHANNISBURG
ORTELSBURG
BIALLA
NEIDENBURG
SOLDAU
WEST-
EAST-
PRUSSIA
POLLAND



INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

land, six million in America, and ten million workmen in the whole world have no employment, that is, must go hungry.

If France had overcome its doubts a couple of years ago, and had, in its own real interest and the interest of other countries, accepted the German offers of materials and labor, the flood of German wares would in great part have flowed into the devastated war districts and would not have clogged the channels of international commerce. Germany makes on the traveler to-day almost the same impression of an orderly, rich land that it made eight years ago. Only a careful, experienced observer realizes that the elegantly attired people in the streets, the patrons of theaters, luxurious restaurants and bathing resorts are no longer the same type of people as before. They are for the most part those who have grown wealthy by taking advantages of the necessities of their land. A small group has become wealthier, but the people as a whole has lost countless billions. The world inclines to the belief that Germany has thus far paid very little and could satisfy its creditors to a much greater degree and much faster than it has thus far done.

BUT WHY DOES GERMANY SAY THAT IT CANNOT PAY?

Walter Rathenau, former president of the largest German electrical concern, later charged with the conduct of Germany's foreign relations, had figured out that Germany delivered, from the fall of 1918 to the end of 1921, materials, public property and cash amounting to 45⅝ billion gold marks. Of this sum, 4.3 billions went for the maintenance of the Allied armies that still occupy the German Rhineland. Taking into account the losses of territory, the German people as a whole has grown more than 100 billion gold marks poorer. If one takes the boiler out of a factory, the draft animals or the steamplough from a farm or the counters and tables out of a bank or business house, operations can no longer be carried on as profitably as before. In the same manner, Germany's profits, which it could devote to paying its debts, have dwindled away to nothing. The so-called German dumping is not a deliberate act of malice, but is the natural consequence of the fact that the German economy has lost its internal equilibrium and is subjected to a too strong pressure. The still unreconstructed ruins of Northern France are a visible symbol that real peace has not yet come. But the peoples of the earth must be made to forget that for more than four long years the sole employment of hundreds

?

et

acles
des
syn-
main

agrès
, on
aient
s ?
?
pelle
'ieu-
ié de
umu-

M.

ar la
ema-

pend
s'ai-
nfert
s les
otz !
« les
pays
ju'en
ment
ment

lle-ci

Une colonie militaire à Cologne

Petite mais opportune contribution au problème des réparations

En haut : Villa pour un général anglais construite à Cologne par une « guilde » allemande.
En bas : Ruines françaises.

Accusations of the Paris Newspaper «Le Peuple» (see p. 16).

of millions of human beings was killing people and destroying property.

The strong nations of the earth must help extinguish the embers of hatred that still glow in so many places. The European ruins can be rebuilt only with the cooperation of the whole civilized world. Any folk that is ready to take up this work honestly deserves the moral and material support of all other peoples. The statesmen of the world have repeatedly made vain efforts to come to an understanding. The various conferences hitherto have been merely arenas for special interests and secret plans. For this reason some great nations have not been willing to participate in these conferences, and, from their viewpoint, their attitude was correct. But

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

land, six million in America, and ten million workmen in the whole world have no employment, that is, must go hungry.

If France had overcome its doubts a couple of years ago, and had, in its own real interest and the interest of other countries, accepted the German offers of materials and labor, the flood of German wares would in great part have flowed into the devastated war districts and would not have clogged the channels of international commerce. Germany makes on the traveler to-day almost the same impression of an orderly, rich land that it made eight years ago. Only a careful, experienced observer realizes that the elegantly attired people in the streets, the patrons of theaters, luxurious restaurants and bathing resorts are no longer the same type of people as before. They are for the most part those who have grown wealthy by taking advantages of the necessities of their land. A small group has become wealthier, but the people as a whole has lost countless billions. The world inclines to the belief that Germany has thus far paid very little and could satisfy its creditors to a much greater degree and much faster than it has thus far done.

BUT WHY DOES GERMANY SAY THAT IT CANNOT PAY?

Walter Rathenau, former president of the largest German electrical concern, later charged with the conduct of Germany's foreign relations, had figured out that Germany delivered, from the fall of 1918 to the end of 1921, materials, public property and cash amounting to 45⅝ billion gold marks. Of this sum, 4.3 billions went for the maintenance of the Allied armies that still occupy the German Rhineland. Taking into account the losses of territory, the German people as a whole has grown more than 100 billion gold marks poorer. If one takes the boiler out of a factory, the draft animals or the steamplough from a farm or the counters and tables out of a bank or business house, operations can no longer be carried on as profitably as before. In the same manner, Germany's profits, which it could devote to paying its debts, have dwindled away to nothing. The so-called German dumping is not a deliberate act of malice, but is the natural consequence of the fact that the German economy has lost its internal equilibrium and is subjected to a too strong pressure. The still unreconstructed ruins of Northern France are a visible symbol that real peace has not yet come. But the peoples of the earth must be made to forget that for more than four long years the sole employment of hundreds

?
et
acles
des
syn-
main
ngrès
, on
aient
s ?
?
nelle
reu-
té de
umu-
M.
ar la
ema-
pend
s'ai-
nsfert
s les
otz !
les
pays
ju'en
ment
ment
lle-ci

Une colonie militaire à Cologne

Petite mais opportune contribution au problème des réparations

En haut : Villa pour un général anglais construite à Cologne par une « guilde » allemande.
En bas : Ruines françaises.

Accusations of the Paris Newspaper «Le Peuple» (see p. 16).

of millions of human beings was killing people and destroying property.

The strong nations of the earth must help extinguish the embers of hatred that still glow in so many places. The European ruins can be rebuilt only with the cooperation of the whole civilized world. Any folk that is ready to take up this work honestly deserves the moral and material support of all other peoples. The statesmen of the world have repeatedly made vain efforts to come to an understanding. The various conferences hitherto have been merely arenas for special interests and secret plans. For this reason some great nations have not been willing to participate in these conferences, and, from their viewpoint, their attitude was correct. But

hunger and misery eventually force their victims along the road taken five years ago by the Russian people to its own destruction. **No country is so strong or healthy (or so remote) that it can always fight off a feeling of desperation.** As long as human beings are compelled to live in abandoned dugouts on the battle front, as long as fruitful land bears but a harvest of iron and powder sediment, as long as homes and churches wait in vain for the builder, so long is it the sacred duty of every individual, both to God and to humanity, to raise his voice in a cry to the reluctant and to all who still cherish hatreds:

LET US DO AWAY WITH THE WRECKAGE THAT REMINDS US OF THE TERRIBLE WAR!

23674

END OF
TITLE